

Traffic Safety Meeting

April 12, 2005

Committee Members Present: Chairman Craig Nordfelt, Randy Lewis, Randy Reese, John Millar, Lynn Archibald, Stephen Zollinger, and Eric Erickson.

Reports:

Police

Randy Lewis stated that he received complaints on the alleyway between city hall and the fire station concerning poor visibility with cars trying to pull out onto Center St. Also, there have been complaints of council men jaywalking in front of city hall.

John Millar said that they are looking at long term solutions. Parking in front of city hall is going to be posted as 30 min. parking. Also, that he will look at eliminating a parking space out front to improve visibility for cars pulling out of the alley onto Center St. As for the parking by the police station and Wells Fargo Bank, the bank and the police are looking to combine their parking lots to better utilize the space.

Randy Lewis had another complaint about limited handicap parking around town.

John Millar stated that there was adequate handicap spaces around town – in front of city hall, in front of US Bank, in front of Wells Fargo, and in front of Colonial Mortgage to name a few.

Lynn Archibald asked about having the city lease the property between Purrington Plaza and the Tabernacle.

Stephen Zollinger said that the owners have been approached in the past, and they have not been willing to consider that option. The second phase of their new development will wrap around up next to the Tabernacle, and the remaining ground will be turned into parking spaces to accommodate their customers.

John Millar stated that he will visit with the mayor concerning the parking in the vicinity of city hall.

Streets

John Millar stated that the traffic signal by Adams school – 1st North 2nd East – IDT is replacing it this summer.

Old Business:

Committee Bylaws/Ordinance 664

Stephen Zollinger stated that they are working on a general bylaw outline for all of the committees. It should be done in about 2 months.

Second Street Light on 2nd W 3rd S

John Millar reported that they are working on getting this done.

Four Way Stop 1st S 1st W

John Millar had a traffic study prepared for the committee's review. The intersection warrants a 4 way stop. However, historically the accidents that have generated at that intersection have been very few, and mostly because cars running North and South have run the stop sign. John left it up to the committee to decide what they wanted to recommend to the council.

Eric Erickson moved to table this issue for a few months and review it again at a later date.

Randy Reese seconded it.

All approved.

Stripe West Main and Pioneer as Left Turn

John Millar stated that IDT is looking at the intersection now that it is warmer. It is his guess that they won't change anything.

He also reported that they only need 1 more appraisal on the property needed to straighten up the intersection. The appraisals need to be completed before the property owners can be approached. Offers on the property need to be accepted by the property owners before this project can move forward.

New Business:

Rexburg Trails

John Millar stated that the council has accepted proposals from the Trails of Madison County, and they are in the process of putting some of the proposed trails in place. The portion on 2nd South is a controversial piece, because it may require some changes with the number of parking spaces located on the street – changed from diagonal to parallel parking.

Stephen Zollinger stated that parking on 2nd South is in for changes that need to be addressed in the next 12 months. The University is also building parking pockets around the campus.

Randy Reese mentioned that the University has plans for lots around buildings. They have results on a new parking survey that was done, and is bringing the results for next meeting. The University plans to add approx. 250 spaces this year.

Craig Nordfelt questioned the need for bike trails within the city, especially on 2nd South.

Stephen Zollinger stated that bike paths are generally designed for families. It attracts joggers and strollers besides bikers. Currently, the street has been striped from the Fairgrounds to the High School.

South 2nd East Traffic

John Millar said that they were going to see if they can get a start on striping a turn lane on South 2nd East starting after 2nd South by the next meeting.

Roundabout at 4th South 2nd West

John Millar reported that the design is practically complete, and they will be putting out for bid next week.

Eric Erickson asked about plan for South arterial. He wanted to know how it ties in.

Stephen Zollinger stated that the new arterial is going to be regulated by traffic signals on 7th South 2nd West. University Blvd. will be the arterial and hook into 7th South.

John Millar said that he can't put in a roundabout because of grade.

Traffic Safety Issues Quadrant Reports

Lynn Archibald stated that there was a 50 cc bike on the bike path at Smith Park buzzing around the path as fast as he could go.

Stephen Zollinger said that there isn't a law to govern a bike that is less than 50 cc and has the speed capacity of 25 mph or less. The city, however, is considering an ordinance to govern these types of motorized vehicles in the future.

Next meeting May 10, 2005

Meeting adjourned.